

FIG. 1

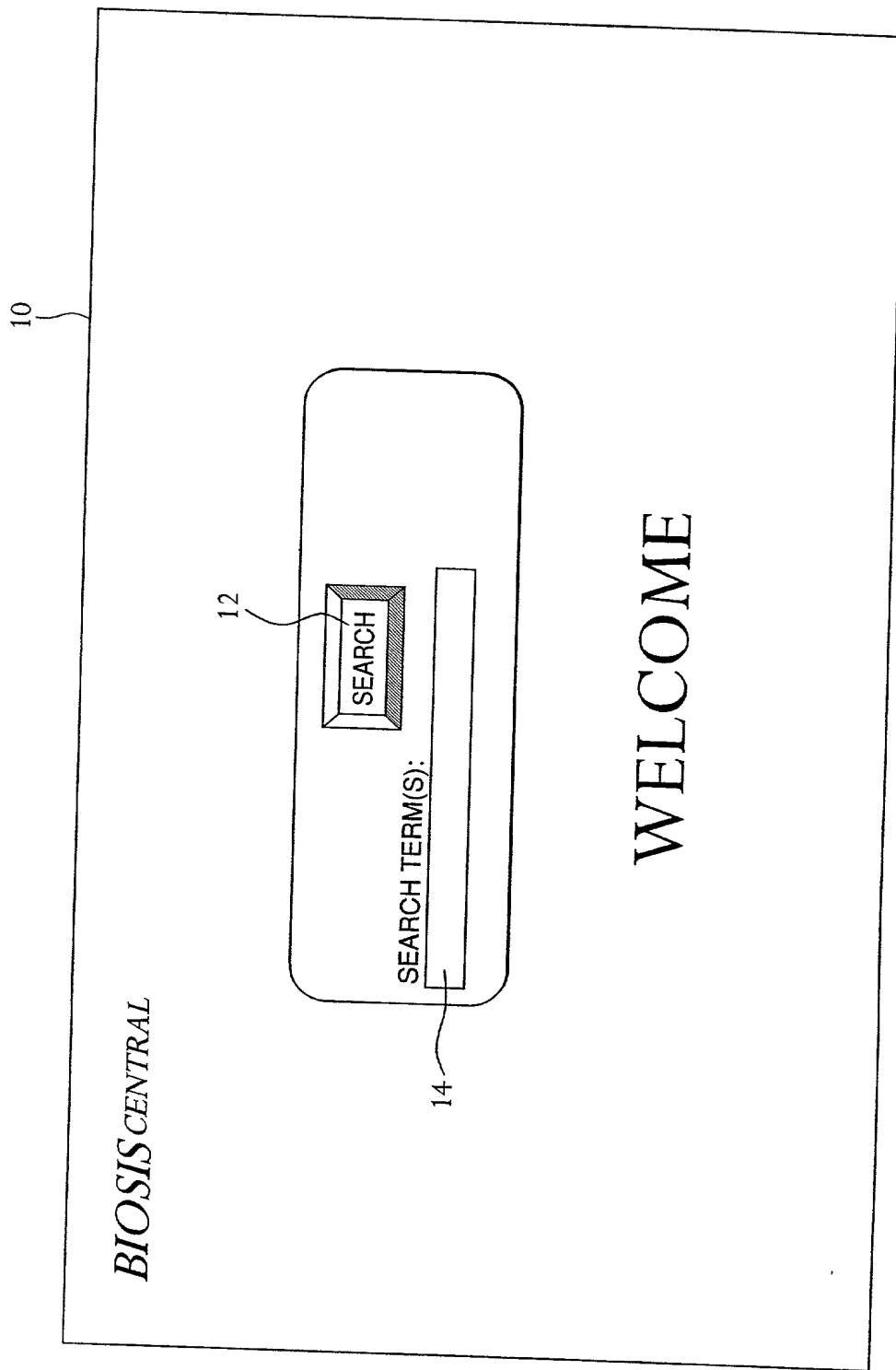


FIG. 2

FIG. 3 is a block diagram of a system for searching and retrieving information related to a search term. The system includes a search interface (14) that receives a search term (e.g., "GLOBAL WARMING CHOLERA OUTBREAK") and a search button. The search interface is connected to a vocabulary bridge (30) which is connected to a metadata database (32). The metadata database is connected to a series of external databases (34) including ITIS (38), National Imagery and Mapping Agency, National Oceanographic & Atmospheric Administration, Science, Nature, PNAS, and GENBANK (36).

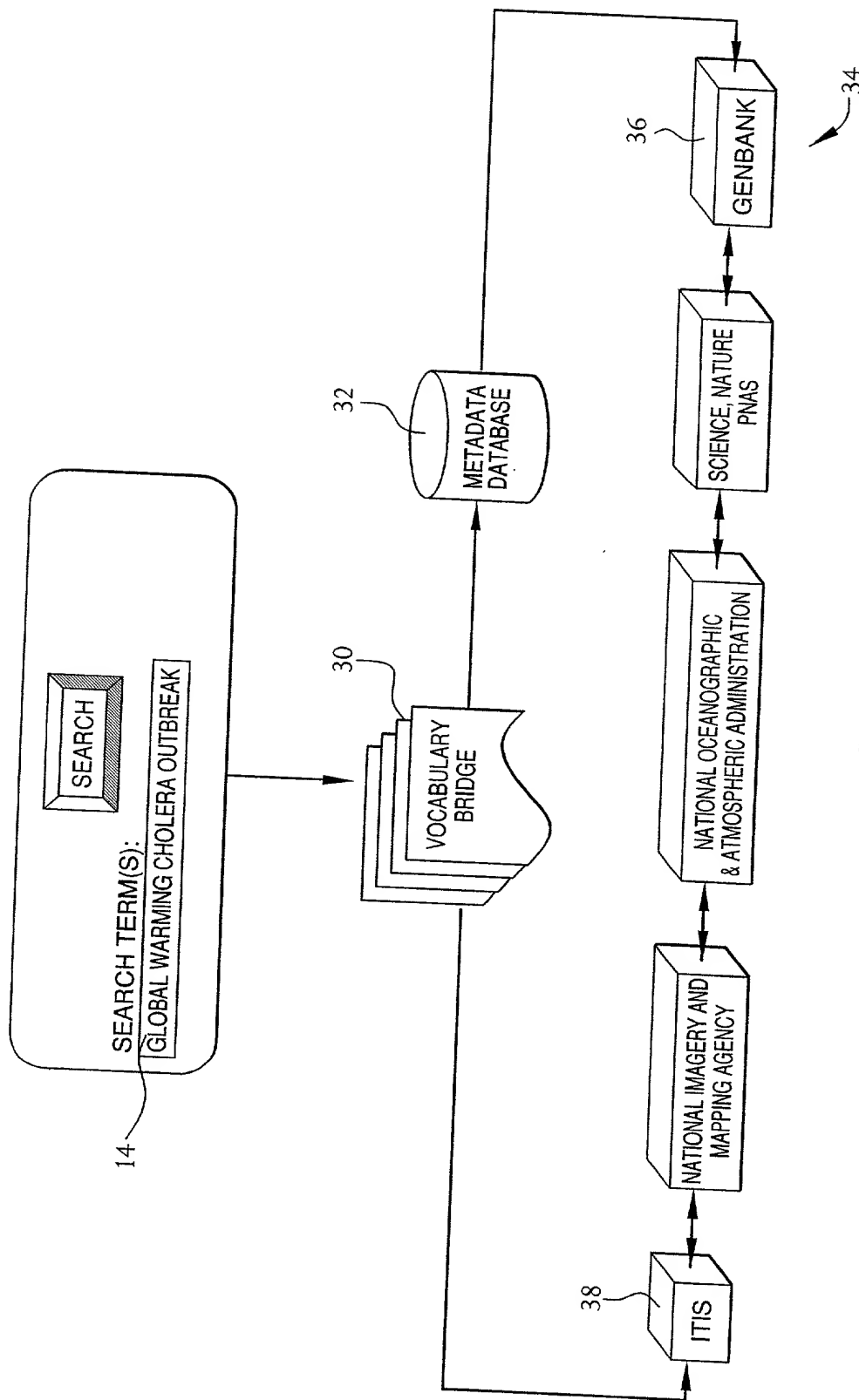


FIG. 3

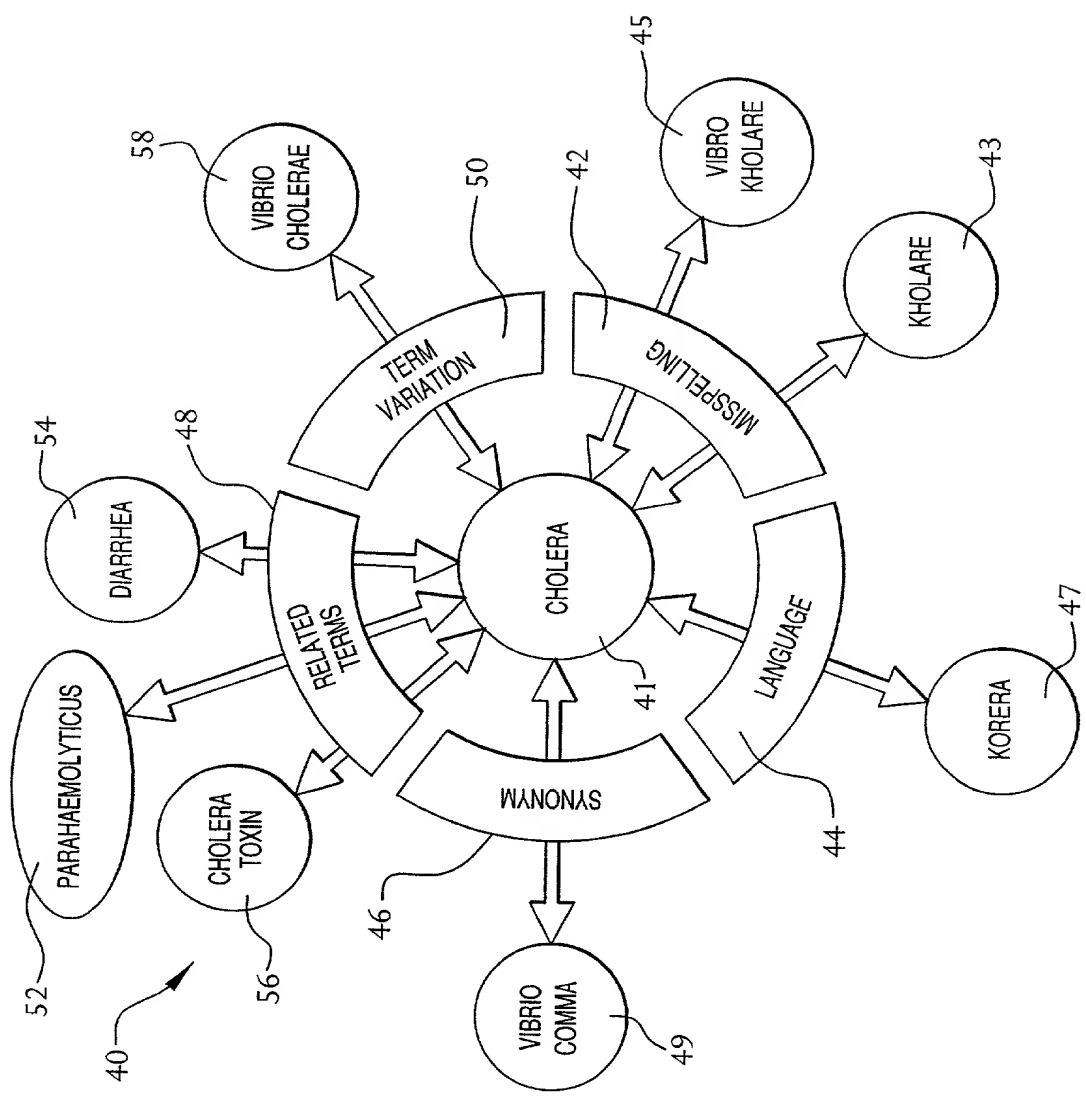


FIG. 4

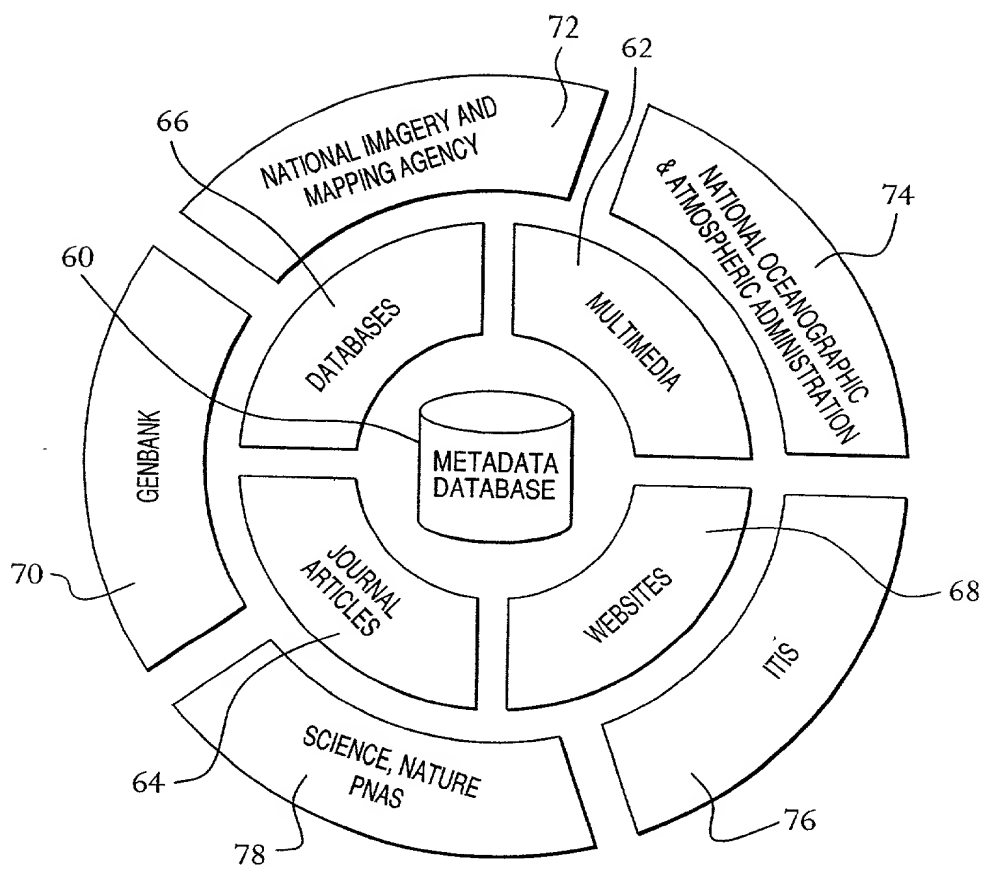


FIG. 5

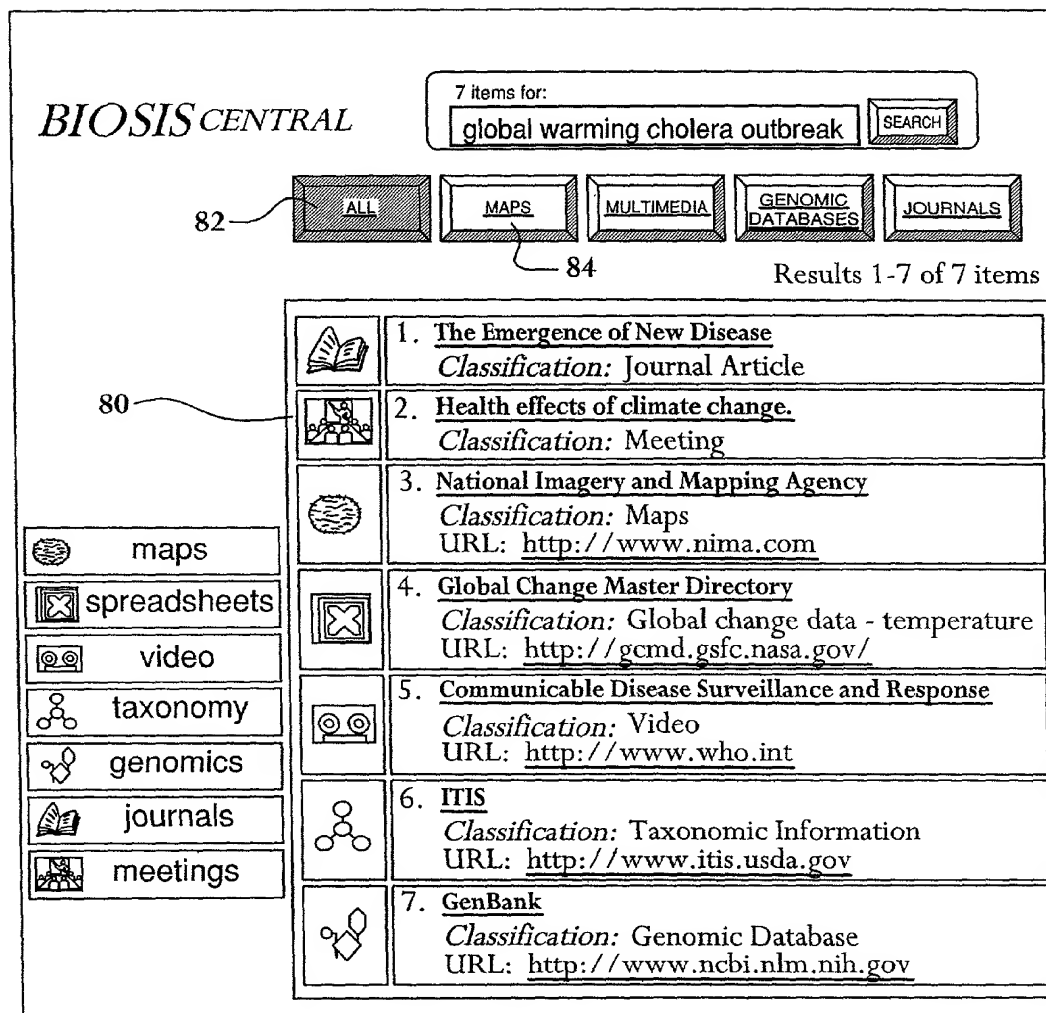


FIG. 6.



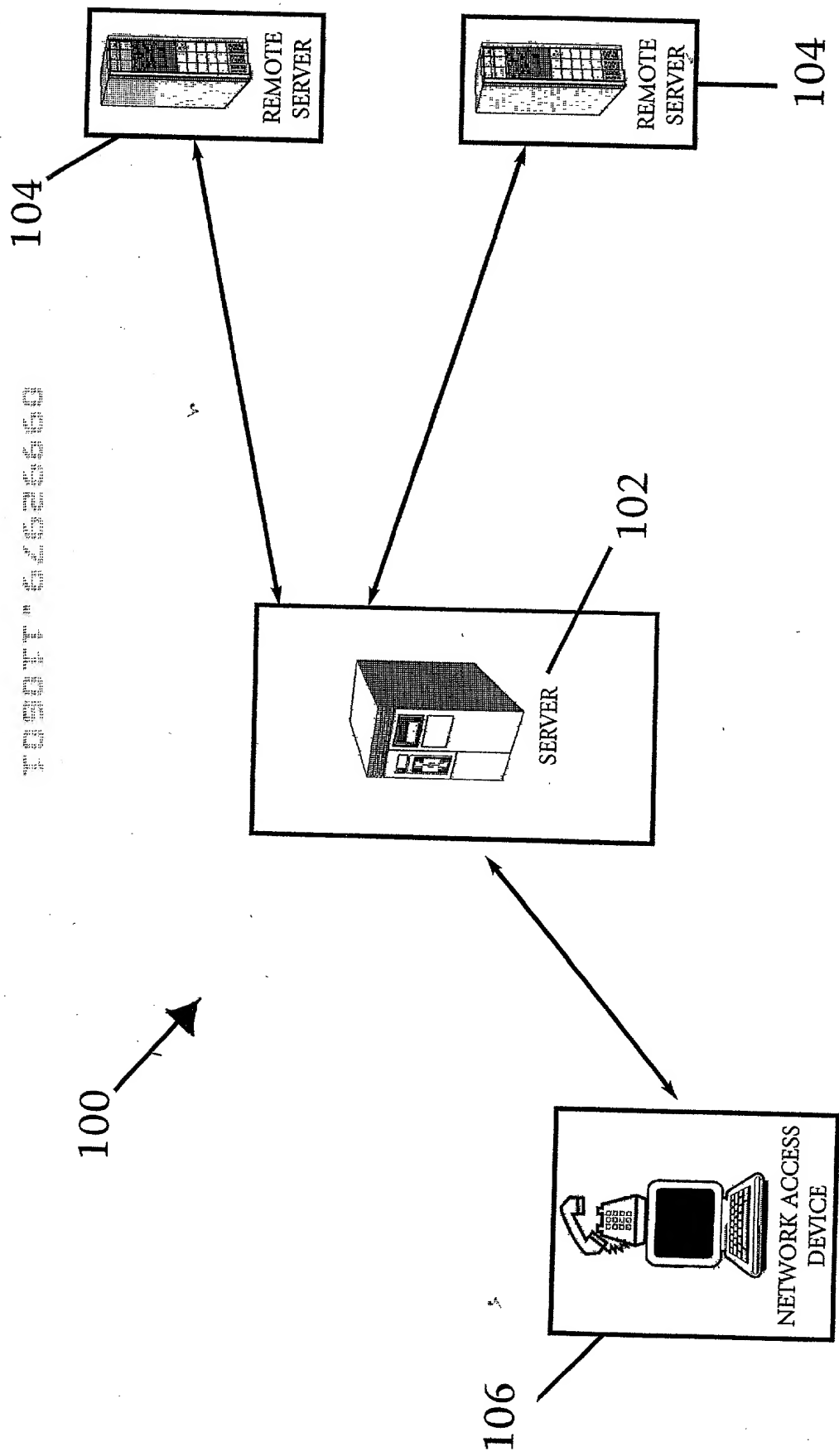


FIG. 8